Execution of Irrigation projects in tribal and drought prone areas

451. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given top priority to the execution of irrigation projects in tribal and drought prone areas under the Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP);

(b) whether some more areas in Orissa have been identified where irrigation facilities are likely to be provided;

(c) whether irrigation projects are proposed to be extended to drought prone areas of Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details of the schemes proposed for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Six major and 18 medium schemes are under implementation by the Integrated Tribal Development Project in Orissa. These projects are as follows:

Upper Kolab, Upper Indravati, Subarnarekha, Potteru, Kanupur, Ib, Sarafgarh, Talasara, Remala, Pilasalki, Bondapipilli, Sunej, Kanjhari, Barsaun, Harbhangi, Badanala, Rukura, Deo, Kughi, Upper Samakoi, Bhaskal, Kansabahal, Bankabal and Banghalahati.

The Ministry of Welfare has accorded administartive approval for an amount of Rs. 115.775 lakhs from the Special Central Assistance towards payment of capital cost of 45 lift irrigation schemes in the ITDP areas of Koraput and Kalahandi districts.

Export from Orissa

452. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a workshop was held on the 1st and 2nd February, 1989 at Bhubaneswar in Orissa to boost the exports from the State and to draw a plan of action on this issue;

(b) if so, what are the details of discussion held at the workshop; and

(c) whether the export of sea products and related problems were also discussed at the workshop and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) In its efforts to involve State Governments in the export promotion activities, Ministry of Commerce had organised a Seminar to finalise the Action Plans, prepared by Trade Development Authority for promotion of exports from Orissa, Bihar and Sikkim on February 1st and 2nd, 1989 at Bhubaneshwar and to evolve a long-term export strategy. The Action Plans had sought to identify specific products, having potential for exports, export worthy units in the concerned product groups and infrastructural facilities needed for back up support and had also suggested specific export development activities to be undertaken in the overseas market. The issues relating to exports of sea products and connected problems were specially discussed during the course of the Seminar.

2. Some of the thrust products identified for the State of Orissa are Handlooms, readymade garments, leather products, Handicrafts, software, cashew, tea, polished, granite, charge chrome, cotton yarn and products of tribal areas like Sal seeds, niger seeds, kendu leaves, tarmarind, agarbatti, sobai rope and marine products.

3. Various State and Central level agencies like Export Promotion Corporations/ Directorates, Trade Development Authority, State Trading Corporation, Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation, trade and industry etc., have been identified to implement the Action Plan.